



PRESS RELEASE

From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Punishable by up to six months in jail and \$1,000 fine if caught...

Parma Councilman to introduce legislation tonight that would bar registered sex offenders from city owned parks & rec facilities

(Parma, OH) – Parma Ward 8 Councilman Scott Tuma will introduce legislation during tonight's (Tuesday, Sept. 7) City Council meeting that would prohibit registered sex offenders from any municipally-owned park or recreation facility by making such an offense a first degree misdemeanor.

Tuma, a first-term councilman, said that the legislation sends a "clear and direct" message that sex offenders "are not welcome" in Parma.

If passed by City Council, any registered sex offender caught in a city-owned park or recreation facility would be subject to up to six months in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1,000 if caught and convicted.

The legislation was spawned by two recent incidents of "child enticement" within the city.

Parma Mayor Dean DePiero said, "My administration supports Councilman Tuma's proactive legislation that is designed to keep Parma's children safe."

Tuma said that in the wake of the recent incidents, parents and other child caregivers should be vigilant in knowing the whereabouts of minors and to keep a "close eye" on the young when outside.

"Parma is a safe city," Tuma said. "We intend to keep it that way."

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